

REMARKS

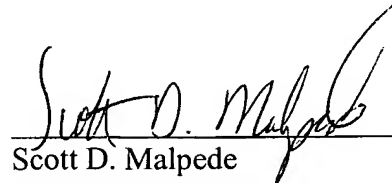
Claims 1-9 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 being independent.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and amended to correct minor informalities, including translational errors, and improve their idiomatic English form. In addition, editorial changes have been made to Claims 2, 3 and 4.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

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